



Title: Hernia method with liquified collagen  
Application Number: 10/784,473  
Art Unit: 3738  
Filed: February 23, 2004  
Examiner: Barrett, Thomas C

May 31, 2005

Amendment and Arguments in Reply to an Office Action Summary,  
dated 11/29/2004.

Dear Sir:

Claim 1 was rejected as being anticipated by Sharkey et al ( 6,099,514 ). However, Sharkey refers to "fissures", not hernias as currently understood by those familiar with the art. "A hernia is an abnormal protrusion of a peritoneal-lined sac through the musculoaponeurotic covering of the abdomen." Hernias are typically classified as inguinal, femoral, umbilical, or ventral (incisional). A fissure is not understood to be a hernia.

In the "Description of the Invention", on page 2, the preperitoneal space is described, further clarifying what is understood to be a hernia.

Respectfully,

*Allen B. Chefitz* 5/31/05  
Allen B. Chefitz, M.D.

Townsend, Sabiston Textbook of Surgery, Sixteenth Edition,  
page 783.